

Precautions for Importation Procedures

I. Articles that require plant quarantine and animal quarantine (vegetables, fruits, meat)

■ Required documents

- The ***original*** quarantine certificate issued by local public agencies (animals: Health Certificate/plants: Phytosanitary Certificate)
*Copies or faxes will not be accepted by the quarantine inspectors for any reason, even if the importer forgets to attach the original or the original is lost.

■ Precautions

- Each category of item must be checked in advance to see if it is approved for import. Relay the state of the product, processing method (temperature if heated or frozen), and in the case of vegetables or fruits, both the English name and scientific name, to a forwarder.
- Package contents must completely match attached documents. Quarantine certificates, invoices and packing lists are compared with package contents and amounts, quantities, brands and other information are checked for consistency. If there is a discrepancy, the certificates must be corrected (new certificates need to be filled out) and a letter of explanation from the public agency (the agency that issued the certificates) will be necessary. In particular, if the number of certificates issued do not account for all of the packaged contents, all items will be held at customs since it will be impossible to determine which items went through export quarantine in the shipping country.

Fruits and vegetables

- The scientific name must also be written on certificates and invoices since it is often impossible to determine the species of plant merely by the English name.
- Some fruits and vegetables from certain countries are import-prohibited in accordance with the Plant Protection Law. Check with a forwarder to learn which products fit these criteria.
- Since it is impossible to determine contents of packages simply labeled as mixed vegetables or mixed fruits, the contents and amounts should always be indicated.

Example: ABC BRAND FROZEN MIXED VEGETABLE 5packs/10kg

Consisting of:

Fresh frozen cut carrot: 2.5kg

Fresh frozen corn: 2.5kg

Fresh frozen green pea: 2.5kg

Fresh frozen xxx: .2.5kg

Total 10kg in 5 packs/ @2.0kg/pack

- The words, "Frozen to below -18 degrees Celsius" must always be written in the remarks column on the quarantine certificate of frozen plant products. Even if an item is import-prohibited, there are some cases where it can pass the plant quarantine under the assumption that all insects are killed if an item has been totally frozen. However, if the product has begun to thaw even a little at the time of inspection, it cannot be imported. However, if it says "Frozen to below -18 degrees

Celsius" on the quarantine certificate, the product can be refrozen and undergo inspection even if it has begun to thaw.

Meats

- Meats from countries are import-prohibited regardless of whether they have been heated or not. Even if import of meat from a particular country is allowed, it will be import-prohibited once transported via prohibited country, unless it has been specially packaged (packaged according to standards approved by the governments of both countries and affixed with a special sticker). Check with a forwarder to learn which products from which countries are forbidden.

II. Articles that need to be Inspected by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (all items to be tasted or sampled)

■ Required Documents

- List of Ingredients (must account for 100.00% of the product)
- Manufacturing Process Chart List (the processing temperature must be noted)
- Certificate of Analysis (if the product is for the exhibition, a certificate of analysis from the manufacturer is acceptable. However, one from a public agency is preferred.)

*These documents are needed for all processed foods and for all categories of products excluding identical products that only differ in size/volume.

*The three documents mentioned above are to be used as reference at the time of application and preparation of said documents does not guarantee importation.

■ Precautions

Products for tasting or sampling: requiring a **"Notification Form for Importation of Foods (食品等輸入届出書 Shokuhinto Yunyu Todokedesho)"**

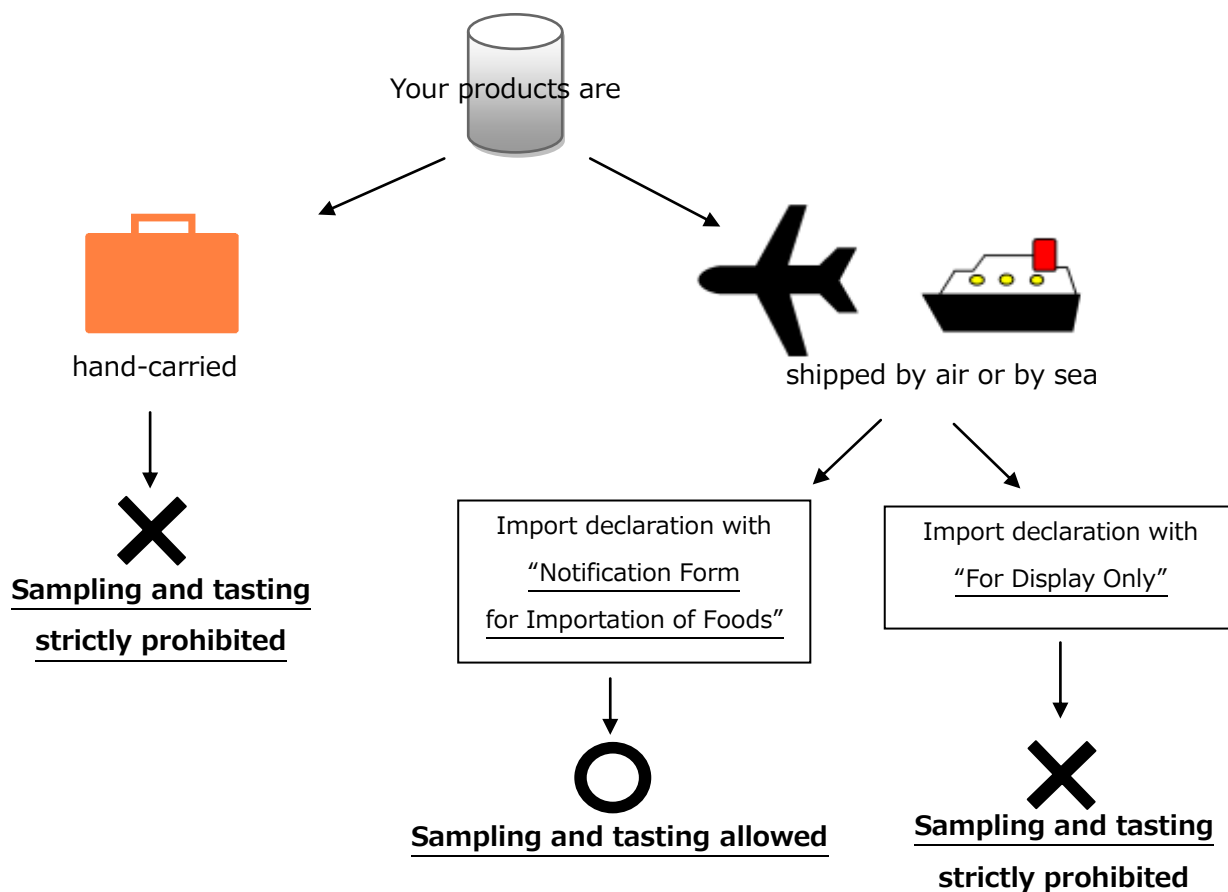
- If you will offer samples/tastings, each product is more likely to undergo an analysis inspection (customs determines whether to inspect the product depending on the above reference documents, the import quantity and on whether there have been prior import violations for that product). Preservatives, artificial colors and thickeners and the like, are inspected during an additives inspection, but this takes time and money (about 4 to 10 days per item, longer if the items are in question). Products cannot be imported if they violate ingredients standards or approved processing methods. Such products may be reshipped or disposed of.
- Even though there are no import standards for additives in unprocessed fresh foods (such as fruits, vegetables, fish and meat), the following items must be confirmed/inspected.

Fruits and vegetables: Residual pesticide concentration inspection (varies for each country/product)

Meats: Confirmation of whether they were slaughtered, processed and packed in a registered factory

Products for exhibition only and not for tasting or sampling: requiring **"For Display Only (確認願 Kakunin negai) "**

- It is very difficult for large volumes of the same product to pass customs with “For Display Only”, as customs will presume such products are not intended solely for display.
- An analysis inspection is not required. However, if these products clear customs with “For Display Only” and are tasted/sampled thereafter, you will be in violation of the Food Sanitation Law.
- All products exhibited under “Display Only” must be destroyed after the exhibition concludes. Disposal costs will be incurred after the exhibition period.



III. Other

- Assigning consignee

If there is no consignee in Japan, the consignee will be FOODEX JAPAN Secretariat and **not** JETRO. In this case, indicate “FOODEX JAPAN Secretariat” and their address as the import proxy in the consignee column of the Air Waybill (AWB: air transport), and Bill of Lading (B/L: ship transport). Do the same on all certificates such as invoices.

- Sending products to the fair site

In order to guarantee that your exhibition materials arrive at the fair site, be sure to fill-in the (1) exhibitor’s name, (2) address of the fair site, (3) event venue name (Makuhari Messe, Hall number (to be conveyed to you at a later date), (4) booth number (to be conveyed to you at a later date), (5) and write “JETRO ZONE” on the invoice, and fax all documents including the AWB, B/L and invoices in advance to your forwarder as Shipping Advise.

*Please take note that the “Consignee” needed for customs purposes refers to the importer

(person who is responsible for the imports and required to pay duties) and not to the destination.
Accordingly, if you write "Makuhari Messe, Hall XXX" in the Consignee column the products will not
be able to pass quarantine or customs.

• Labeling temperature

Frozen and refrigerated products should be packaged separately from normal (dry) products and should be sent so that they arrive before the arrival deadline (consult your forwarder with regard to transportation times).

In particular, if you need to specify temperature (this only applies to air transport as managing the temperature of small packages by ship is impossible), please make specific instructions to your forwarder in advance specifically with Case Marks and Case Numbers.

Case Mark example:

ABC Company

FOODEX JAPAN 2008

Hall : xxx Stand : Jetro zone

Booth : yyy

C/No. 1 - 10 / 10

Made in zzz

Instructions example:

C/No. 1 / 10 - 4 / 10 at room temperature

5 / 10 - 8 / 10 at +5°C

9 / 10 - 10 / 10 at -20°C